

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-10

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 L-02 NSC-07 NSCE-00 CIAE-00

INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 PM-03 PRS-01 SAJ-01 DRC-01 SP-02

COME-00 EB-03 /056 W

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P R 021100Z JUL 74

FM AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3904

SECDEF WASHDC PRIORITY

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

USNMR SHAPE

USCINCEUR

CINCUSAFE

USMISSION NATO

C O N F I D E N T I A L THE HAGUE 3302

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS, BEXP, NO, NATO, NL, BE, DA

SUBJ: F-104 AIRCRAFT REPLACEMENT

1. AT JULY RECEPTION LT. GEN. KNOOP, CHIEF OF STAFF, RNLAf, TOLD POLCOUNS HE HAD JUST RECEIVED TELEGRAPHIC REPORT FROM DUTCH ELEMENT OF FOUR-NATION AIRCRAFT REPLACEMENT SURVEY TEAM PRESENTLY IN US. REPORT, HE SAID, CONTAINED A "VERY BIG PLUS" BUT ALSO A "MINUS."

2. KNOOP SAID TEAM HAD BEEN ADVISED THAT USAF ON AUGUST 1 WOULD ASK NORTHROP AND GENERAL DYNAMICS
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TO MAKE PROPOSALS FOR USAF PURCHASE OF THEIR LIGHT-WEIGHT

FIGHTERS AND THAT US DECISION TO PURCHASE ONE OR THE OTHER WOULD BE MADE BY 1 JANUARY 1975.

3. TEAM HAD BEEN ADVISED FURTHER THAT USAF WOULD BE PROCURRING A SUBSTANTIAL NUMBER OF AIRCRAFT, A PORTION OF WHICH WOULD BE DEPLOYED TO EUROPE.

4. KNOOP SAID HE WAS ABSOLUTELY OVERJOYED TO RECEIVE ABOVE NEWS. HE THEN SAID THAT THE "MINUS" IN THE REPORT HE HAD RECEIVED WAS THAT THERE HAD NOT BEEN A SATISFACTORY CO-PRODUCTION PACKAGE PRESENTED TO THE TEAM WHILE THEY WERE IN WASHINGTON; HE UNDERSTOOD THAT THIS WAS BECAUSE STATE, DEFENSE AND COMMERCE HAD SO FAR BEEN UNABLE TO COME UP WITH AN AGREED PROPOSAL. KNOOP SAID THAT FOR THE GON--NOT FOR THE NRLAF--THIS MATTER IS CRUCIAL AND HE THEREFORE EARNESTLY HOPED THAT WHEN TEAM HAS ITS FINAL MEETING WITH US OFFICIALS IN WASHINGTON PRIOR TO RETURNING TO EUROPE A SATISFACTORY CO-PRODUCTION PROPOSAL WILL BE FORTHCOMING FROM THE US SIDE.
GOULD

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: FIGHTER AIRCRAFT, GOVERNMENT PROCUREMENT, F-104, INTERGOVERNMENTAL COOPERATION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 02 JUL 1974
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974THEHA03302
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740175-0288
From: THE HAGUE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740779/aaaacpvz.tel
Line Count: 81
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: LIMDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: LIMDIS
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 05 APR 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <05 APR 2002 by worrelsw>; APPROVED <19 JUN 2002 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: F-104 AIRCRAFT REPLACEMENT
TAGS: MASS, BEXP, NL, NATO, (KNOOP)
To: STATE DOD
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005